

Superior Court of California,  
County of Yolo

Job Announcement

**Mediator**  
**Part-time, Independent Contractor**

Recruitment # C-16-01

**Closing Date: Friday, July 15, 2016 at Noon**

**Position Summary:**

Yolo Superior Court is seeking to expand its current panel of contract mediators to mediate disputes and make written recommendations to the Court regarding legally contested child custody and visitation matters.

Mediators working with the Yolo Superior Court are independent contractors and are not agents, officers, or employees of the Court. This is not a benefited assignment.

Contract mediators are assigned cases on a rotational basis to provide mandatory mediation by appointment either on site at the Court or at the mediator's office. The mediators are required to prepare stipulation and order for the parties and the judge to sign if the parties reach an agreement in mediation. If the parties do not reach an agreement then the mediators prepare a recommendation for the Court.

**Salary:** \$200.00 per appointment or \$220.00 per appointment with bilingual pay differential. The bilingual pay differential will be paid when at least one party requires an interpreter and Spanish is used during the mediation. Fluency in Spanish must first be confirmed by Court testing,

**Examples of Duties:** (Illustrative only)

- Conduct mediation appointments in order to assist the Court and families in resolving child custody and visitation disputes; assist individuals in formulating parenting plans that are in the best interest of their children
- Prepare written stipulation of agreements for Court signature; make recommendations regarding custody and visitation of children to the court
- Interview parents, children, extended families, and collateral sources to develop written child custody and visitation recommendations for the court
- Evaluate families for referral to appropriate community resources
- Work closely with court staff

**Knowledge Required:**

- California Court system policies and procedures;
- Adult psychopathology and the psychology of families;
- Child development, child abuse, clinical issues relating to children, the effects of divorce on children, the effects of domestic violence on children, and child custody research sufficient to enable a counselor to assess the mental health needs of children;
- Training in domestic violence issues, the nature and extent of domestic violence and its effects on the family and the legal rights of, and remedies available to victims;
- Legal mandates and statewide standards related to Court-connected mediation and the scope and activities of public and private mediation services
- Applicable case law, California Family Code, Code of Civil Procedure, and local Court rules and other statutes relating to dissolution and mediation
- Legal terminology, legal forms, and document processing procedures specific to this office within the Court
- Court mediation theory and interviewing, settlement and crisis intervention techniques appropriate for adults and children
- Principles, procedures, and techniques of marriage, family, and individual counseling and family systems including reunification
- Behavior disorders, mental disorders, substance abuse, domestic violence, child abuse and molestation
- Various human services programs and community resources

**Skill and Ability Required;**

- Understand and apply statutes, court rules and case law
- Establish rapport with families from a variety of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds to maintain their confidence and cooperation in working toward a solution of their problems
- Communicate effectively both verbally and in writing within time limits
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with the public, Court and County personnel, staff, and others
- Interview effectively; provide short-term marriage and family counseling
- Analyze situations accurately, make recommendations and take appropriate action

**Employment Standards**

**Training, continuing education, and experience requirements for court-connected mediators are specified in California Family Code sections 1815 and 1816 and California Rules of Court 5.210 (f).**

**Education:** Possession of a Master's Degree from an accredited college or university with a major in psychology, social work, marriage, family and child counseling or other behavioral science degree substantially related to marriage and interpersonal relationships.

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**Experience:** Two (2) years of post degree experience in counseling or psychotherapy, preferable in a setting related to the areas of responsibility of the Family Court and with a diverse population.

**Training Requirement:** Completion of 40 hours of Judicial Council approved custody and visitation training is required. If currently working in a California Trial court, prior training is acceptable. If not, training is required within the first 6 months as a court connected mediator; Annually complete 8 hours of related Judicial Council approved continuing education programs, conferences and workshops. This requirement is in addition to the annual 4-hour domestic violence training described in rule 5.215.

**License or Certificate:** Possession of a valid California State License in Marriage, Family Therapist, Licensed Clinical Social Worker or Licensed Psychologist is highly desirable.

**Bilingual Skills:** Bilingual skills in Spanish are highly desirable.

**Other:** Professional Liability Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 each occurrence is required. Possession of or the ability to obtain a valid California driver's license is required.

### **Recruitment Process**

Applicants must complete and submit an application and a Curriculum Vitae by the deadline listed above. Applicants whose qualifications most closely match the job requirements will be invited to participate in an oral interview, which will evaluate the education, experience and personal qualifications of applicants. Selection will be based upon the results of the interview.

**Filing Requirements:** Completed Yolo Superior Court Job Application and Curriculum Vitae

Official Yolo Superior Court application forms are available on the Court's Web site, [www.yolo.courts.ca.gov](http://www.yolo.courts.ca.gov) or may be picked up from the Court Human Resources at 1000 Main Street, Rm 3501, Woodland CA, 95695. Completed application materials may be submitted in any of the following ways:

- Email to [humanresources@yolo.courts.ca.gov](mailto:humanresources@yolo.courts.ca.gov)
- Mail to Yolo Superior Court Human Resources, P.O. Box 1290, Woodland CA, 95776
- Drop off at the Human Resources Department at 1000 Main Street, Rm 3501, Woodland CA, 95695
- Fax to Court Human Resources at 530-406-6883.

Completed application materials must be **received** by the listed closing date of this recruitment.

For more information contact a Human Resources representative at 530-406-6881.